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Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly: regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/54/L.5

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 9, 10, 13 and 14 of draft resolution A/C.1/54/L.5, the General Assembly would:

(a) Request the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to lend their support to the establishment of a subregional centre for human rights and democracy in Central Africa;

(b) Also request the Secretary-General, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1197 (1998), to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the necessary support in making operational the early warning mechanism and the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa;

(c) Request the Secretary-General to continue to provide assistance to the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to ensure that they are able to carry on with their efforts;

(d) Also request the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the resolution.

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B. Relationship of the request to the programme of work

2. The request contained in operative paragraphs 10, 13 and 14 of the draft resolution are associated with programme 26, Disarmament, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001, as revised, and section 4, Disarmament, of the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

3. The request contained in operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution is associated with programme 19, Human rights, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 and the related activities are provided for under section 22 of the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

C. Activities by which the request would be implemented

4. Implementation of the requests contained in operative paragraphs 13 and 14 of the draft resolution, regarding provision of assistance to the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and the submission of a report to the General Assembly, would be carried out within resources provided under section 4 of the regular budget for the biennium 2000-2001. The provision contained therein covers substantive servicing of four plenary sessions of the Committee during the biennium.

5. The activities of the Standing Advisory Committee, including those related to the establishment of an early warning mechanism for Central Africa and the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa, as referred to in operative paragraph 10 of the draft resolution, are expected to be funded from voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa.

6. Consultations are continuing on the modalities for the establishment of a subregional centre for human rights and democracy in Central Africa. Activities in connection therewith would be carried out subject to availability of extrabudgetary resources in the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights.

D. Modifications required in the programme of work for 2000-2001

7. Modifications would not be required to programme 26, Disarmament, or programme 19, Human rights, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 or to sections 4 or 22 of the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

E. Potential for absorption

8. The programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 would continue to provide for substantive servicing of two annual meetings of the Standing Advisory Committee. Activities referred to in operative paragraphs 9 and 10 of the draft resolution would be financed from extrabudgetary resources. Additional requirements are therefore not expected to arise under the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

F. Indication of additional requirements

9. Accordingly, should the General Assembly approve draft resolution A/C.1/54/L.5, no additional requirements would arise under the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.